



## RELOCATION INFORMATION FOR

# USCG Group Astoria Warrenton, Oregon

Information Date  
February, 7 2008

Visit the Group Web Site at  
<http://www.uscg.mil/d13/units/gruastoria/>

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## Group Astoria Overview

Welcome to Astoria Oregon. We are pleased to welcome you to the Astoria area and look forward to your arrival. Your new assignment should be both challenging and rewarding. The history of Coast Guard service in the Pacific Northwest, and particularly in the Columbia River area, is long and distinguished.

Group/Air Station Astoria is co-located at the Astoria Regional Airport in Warrenton Oregon. Nestled between the beautiful mountain ranges of Oregon and Washington. The missions of the Group/Air Station include Search and Rescue, Law Enforcement, Aids to Navigation Support, and Environmental Protection.

The Group provides Supply, Administration, Medical, Naval and Civil Engineering, Communications and other support functions to the Motor Life Boat Stations: [Cape Disappointment](#), [Tillamook Bay](#) and [Grays Harbor](#), and also provides limited operational support to the Cutter Fir - [Electronic Support Detachment](#), [Marine Safety Detachment](#), the Aids to Navigation Team, [National Motor Life Boat School](#) and the [Advanced Rescue Swimmer School](#).

The Group also provides support to the Pacific Area Cutters: [Alert](#) and [Steadfast](#)

The base is within a couple of hours of Mount ST Helen, Mount Hood and Mount Rainier. There are plenty of outdoor activities to keep one occupied (i.e., hunting, fishing, hiking, skiing, etc.) There are two local hospitals to take care of most medical needs. Clatsop Community College is located in downtown Astoria for those looking to further their education. The town of Astoria is an interesting small town with lots of historical sites to see.

## Must Know Items

### ***Reporting:***

During normal work hours from 0800-1545 report in the proper uniform of the day to Group Astoria Administration Office located in the Admin building to have your orders endorsed. Report to Group Astoria Admin by the time specified on your orders or by 1600 Mon - Fri. If reporting after hours: Report to Operations Center, located in the second deck of the hangar.

Uniform to report in: Summer: Tropical Blue Long  
Winter: Service Dress Bravo

Uniform normally worn during the workday: Working Blue/ODU

***Unit Website and Mailing Address:***

Group Astoria Web Site: <http://www.uscg.mil/d13/units/gruastoria/> internet  
<http://cgweb.d13.uscg.mil/gruastoria/Default.htm> intranet

Mailing Address: (Your name)  
C/O U. S. Coast Guard Group AIRSTA  
2185 SE 12th Place  
Warrenton, OR 97146

***Clatsop County Emergency Services:***

For all emergencies dial **911**

<b>Astoria Police Department</b> 555 30th Street Astoria, OR 97103 (503) 325-4411	<b>Warrenton Police Department</b> 147 S. Main St. Warrenton, OR 97146 (503) 861-0792	<b>Seaside Police Department</b> 1090 S Roosevelt Drive Seaside, OR 97138 (503) 738-6311
<b>Clatsop County Sheriff's Office</b> 355 7th Street Astoria, OR 97103 (503) 325-8653		<b>Oregon State Police</b> 350 West Marine Drive Astoria, OR 97103 (503) 325-2231
<b>Astoria Fire Department</b> 555 30th Street Astoria, OR 97103 (503) 325-2345	<b>Warrenton Fire Department</b> 147 S. Main St. Warrenton, OR 97146 (503) 861-2494	<b>Seaside Fire Department</b> 851 Broadway Seaside, OR 97138 (503) 738-5420
<b>Medix Ambulance Service</b> 2325 SE Dolphin Ave Warrenton, OR 97146 (503) 861-1990		

## **Local Community**

### ***Local Community Overview:***

Astoria and Clatsop County are rich in things of historic interest and importance. Early events occurring here had far reaching effects, eventually resulting in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest becoming part of the United States instead of the possession of a foreign power.

Urged on by the desire to find a fabled "Northwest Passage" across the North American continent by water, Spanish and British explorers sailed along the Oregon and Washington coastlines. However, the Columbia River was not discovered until 1792, when Captain Robert Gray of Boston entered the river and named it after his ship the COLUMBIA RENDIVA.

In 1804, President Jefferson appointed Captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to head an expedition across the western plains and mountains to the Pacific Ocean. Lewis and Clark explored the lower Columbia region and spent the winter of 1805-06 at Fort Clatsop, near Astoria.

Fort Clatsop, a national memorial park, is located four miles (within jogging distance of the Group and Air Station) south of Astoria on Highway 105 (Old Highway 101). The fort was rebuilt in 1955, near the spot of the original. It is one of the finest tourist attractions on the Pacific Coast.

In 1810, John Jacob Astor of New York organized the Pacific Fur Company, to engage in the trade on the Columbia River. The company sent the ship TONQUIN by sea and another party overland, to meet at the mouth of the Columbia River.

The men on the TONQUIN arrived at their destination in March 1811 and built Fort Astoria, the first permanent American settlement on the Pacific Coast. After many hardships and loss of lives, the overland party arrived in the winter of 1811. As a result of the War of 1812 and the loss of relief ships, the fort passed into the possession of the British but was returned to the United States in 1818 when the British moved their fur trading company to Portland.

During the following decades, Astoria was the goal of traders, explorers, missionaries, and pioneer settlers. The shores of the Columbia are the last resting places of many of these early intrepid adventurers. These historic events are illustrated on the pictorial frieze surrounding the main portion of the Astoria Column. The Column is a monument 125 feet tall, located atop Coxcomb Hill, overlooking a scenic panorama of mountains, ocean, and river. This unique monument is the only one of its kind in the United States and attracts thousands of visitors annually.

Today the principal industries of Astoria and Clatsop County are fishing, lumbering, agriculture, and tourism.

### ***Climate:***

The climate in the Astoria, Warrenton, and Seaside area is mild with an average January temperature of 43° F. Few days in winter fall below the freezing level, with many foggy mornings. The average summer weather rarely exceeds 70° F, with days of 80° F temperatures relatively scarce. Average rainfall is 80-90 inches a year. Very little snow falls in the Coastal Mountain Range. There are no tornadoes or hurricanes and very few lightning storms. Rain gear is a must for all members of the family. Summer months bring bright, sunny days but a sweater is almost always needed during the evening hours. Warm clothing and heavy coats are essential during the winter months.

### ***Event Calendar:***

The following is just a taste of the annual events in the Clatsop County area. Additional information on these and other events in the state can be viewed at the Astoria/Warrenton Chamber of Commerce website <http://www.ohwy.com/or/a/astoricc.htm> under the Fairs, Festivals, and Events section. Another source is the “Events Calendar” section on the Daily Astorian website <http://www.dailyastorian.info/>.

Jan.

Fort Clatsop Winter  
Missoula Children's Theater

Feb.

Oregon Dixieland Jubilee  
Chocolate Lovers Festival

Mar.

St. Patrick's Day Mudd Paddy Pardy  
Great Oregon Beach Cleanup

Apr.

Annual Pops Concert  
Annual Kite Festival  
A C B L Tournament (Bridge)  
Astoria-Warrenton Crab & Seafood Festival

May

Annual Guest Composer & Conductor Concert  
Astoria Sunday Market (runs through October) [www.astoriasundaymarket.org](http://www.astoriasundaymarket.org)

Jun.

Pirate Treasure Weekend  
Scandinavian Midsummer Festival [www.astoriascanfest.com](http://www.astoriascanfest.com)  
Sandcastle Day

Jul.

Children's Fun Fair  
Scuttlebutt Saturdays  
Fireworks On the Beach At Seaside  
World War II Reenactment

Aug.

Air Fair  
Astoria Regatta  
Clatsop County Fair  
Scuttlebutt Saturdays  
Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show  
Hood To Coast Relay Race (Largest relay race in North America) [www.hoodtocoast.com](http://www.hoodtocoast.com)  
Seaside Beach Volleyball Tournament (world class event)

Sep.

Civil War Reenactment  
Sand Sculpture and Beach Festival  
Seaside Community Picnic  
Seaside Hot Rod Happenin' (normally over 500 cars)

Oct.

Great Columbian Crossing (10K race)  
Talking Tombstones

Nov.

Stormy Weather Arts Festival  
Haystack Holidays

Dec.

Christmas Day 1805  
Victorian Holiday Dinner  
Starving Artist Art Fair



### ***Cultural Attractions:***

Everywhere you look around a corner in the Clatsop County area you will find unique cultural attractions. A few of the attractions are the Columbia River Maritime Museum, Fort Clatsop National Memorial (Lewis & Clark Museum/Interpretive Center), Maddox Dance Studio, Astor Street Opry Company, The River Theater, Clatsop Community Performing Arts Center, The Flavel House, and the Uppertown Firefighters Museum & Astoria Children's Museum.

### ***Recreation Opportunities:***

For outdoor people, these are some of the recreational activities to be had in the Clatsop County area. Camping, hiking, hunting, fishing, surfing, golfing, kite flying, biking, windsurfing, and sports leagues for young and old. Within a one to two hour drive you will find skiing, snowboarding, skydiving, and whitewater rafting.

For indoor activities there is swimming, bowling, Laser Tag, racquetball, and fitness centers.

### ***Military Related and Civic Organizations:***

(Many of these organizations have additional branches in other Clatsop County cities.)

**American Legion:** (503) 325-5238

**Elks:** (503) 325-2806

**Eagles:** (503) 325-0921

**Moose:** (503) 325-0881

**Masons:** (503) 325-5441

**Astoria Clowns:** P.O. BOX 941 Astoria (503) 325-6533

**Astoria Regatta Association:** (503) 325-8114 (women's group)

**Astoria Visual Arts:** (503) 325-4589 [www.astoriavisualarts.org](http://www.astoriavisualarts.org)

**Coast Guard Spouses Association of Astoria:** <http://www.geocities.com/thecgsaa/>

### ***Non-Profit Social Service Agencies:***

**American Red Cross:** (503) 325-4721

**Clatsop Community Action:** (503) 325-6513

Energy Assistance Program: (503) 325-0230

**Pioneer House Shelter:** (503) 325-5510

**Kiwanis Club of Astoria-Warrenton:** (503) 338-7400

### ***Youth Organizations:***

These are just a few youth organizations available in the Clatsop County area. Each city also has youth sports leagues for baseball, soccer, softball, basketball, and football. Your sponsor can provide you with the most current information for the area you will be living in.

***Boy Scouts of America:*** <http://www.scouting.org/>

**Boy Scouts - Columbia River Council, Inc**

926 Duane St., Astoria, Oregon 97103

(503) 325-5108

<http://www.cpcbsa.org>

**Cub Scouts:** Since 1930, the Boy Scouts of America has helped younger boys through Cub Scouting. It is a year-round family program designed for boys who are in the first grade through fifth grade (or 7, 8, 9, and 10 years of age). Parents, leaders, and organizations work together to achieve the purposes of Cub Scouting.

**Boy Scouts:** Boy Scouting, is one of the traditional membership divisions of the BSA, is available to boys who have earned the Arrow of Light Award or have completed the fifth grade, or who are 11 through 17 years old. The program achieves the BSA's objectives of developing character, citizenship, and personal fitness qualities among youth by focusing on a vigorous program of outdoor activities.

**Venturing Scouts:** Venturing is a youth development program of the Boy Scouts of America **for young men and women** who are 14 (and have completed the eighth grade) through 20 years of age. Venturing's purpose is to provide positive experiences to help young people mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults. Venturing is based on a unique and dynamic relationship between youth, adult leaders, and organizations in their communities. Local community organizations establish a Venturing crew by matching their people and program resources to the interests of young people in the community. The result is a program of exciting and meaningful activities that helps youth pursue their special interests, grow, develop leadership skills, and become good citizens.

***Girl Scouts of America:***

**Girl Scouts - Columbia River Council, Inc**

Lake Oswego, Oregon 97035-3270

(503) 620-4567

(800) 338-5248 - Local Toll Free Phone

E-mail: [girlscouts@juliette.org](mailto:girlscouts@juliette.org)

Web Site: <http://www.girlscoutscrc.org>

The Girl Scout program reflects the ever-changing needs and interests of participating girls. It provides girls with a wide variety of opportunities. The program encourages increased skill building and responsibility, and also promotes the development of strong leadership and decision-making skills. All program activities are age-appropriate and based on The Four Program Goals, as well as on the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

**Daisy Girl Scouts:** For ages 5-6 or grades K, 1.

**Brownie Girl Scouts:** For ages 6, 7, 8 or grades 1, 2, 3.

**Junior Girl Scouts:** For ages 8, 9, 10, 11 or grades 3, 4, 5, 6.

**Cadette Girl Scouts:** For ages 11, 12, 13, 14 or grades 6, 7, 8, 9.

**Senior Girl Scouts:** For ages 14, 15, 16, 17 or grades 9, 10, 11, 12.

***4-H Club:*** POC Justin Williams at (503) 325-8573.

***US Naval Sea Cadet Corps:*** (503) 861-2583

***Community Transportation:***

Sunset Empire Transportation “The Bus” services the cities of Astoria, Warrenton, Gearhart, Seaside, and Cannon Beach. Additional information about The Bus can be found at <http://www.ridethebus.org/index.html>.

## **Housing:**

***Housing Overview:***

Single E-4's and below in first enlistment have the option of unaccompanied leased housing or opting to receive BAH and go out on the economy. All enlisted personnel with dependants are authorized government family housing when available. If government family housing is not available the member SHALL obtain a signed statement of non-availability prior to requesting BAH compensation then they may find housing accommodations on the economy. All officers must find housing on the economy.

### ***Housing Allowances:***

BAH rates in the local area range from \$697 (for an E-3 w/o dependents) to \$1,231 (for an E-7 W/ dependents). Visit the DOD table at <https://secureapp2.hqda.pentagon.mil/perdiem/bah.html>. (If attached to Group/Air Station use zip code 97146, if assigned to a ship or Tongue Point use 97103) The local civilian housing market offers many options in this range.

### ***Government Housing:***

Coast Guard housing in Astoria consists of 103 units, most completed by 1995. Most of the units are grouped together as duplexes, and all are two-story houses with 2, 3, or 4 bedrooms. All units have single car garages, with some built beneath the house, thus creating a '3rd' floor. Gender age ranges will determine the number of bedrooms a family is allowed. For current information refer to housing manual COMDTINST M11101.13 (series) table 6-3 (min. bedroom requirements).

Our Coast Guard neighborhood is within walking distance of Astoria High School, Astoria Middle School, and Capt. Robert Gray Elementary School. There is a fenced-in grass children's play area, and for older children there is a fenced in playground with assorted equipment including a swing set.

The housing in Astoria is open to all active duty enlisted members from the Group, Air Station, ANT, ESD, NMLB School, ALERT, STEADFAST, and FIR. At maximum occupancy, Group Astoria can provide housing for approximately 1/3 of our enlisted workforce, so incoming members should be aware that there is typically a wait of *at least* 3 to 6 months before open space is available. All enlisted, whether you are married or single, SHALL contact the Group's Housing Officer at (503) 325-0203 as soon as you receive orders. All married enlisted personnel who desire not to live in housing, SHALL obtain a signed "Release from Assignment to Mandatory Housing" letter prior to requesting the start of Basic Allowance For Housing (BAH). Incoming enlisted personnel who would like to reside in government housing should contact the Housing Office as soon as orders to the area are assured to ensure that an application is put on file. The Group Astoria Housing Office can also put incoming personnel in contact with local rental/real estate agencies to effect a smooth housing transition into the Astoria area.

Housing Office Phone Number: (503) 325-0204

Hours: Monday thru Friday

0800 to 1130 and 1300 to 1600

Pacific Standard Time

### ***Leased Housing:***

Inquiries into eligibility for government-leased housing can be made by calling the Housing Office (503) 325-0204.

### ***Community Housing:***

Many landlords will not rent to persons with big dogs, particularly Rottweilers, Pit bulls, Dobermans and Chows. Many landlords will accept small pets with a \$200 - \$700 fee.

Landlords usually run credit checks. It is advisable to fix your credit issues before applying for rentals.

### ***Selecting Your Rental Apartment or Home:***

Accumulate information and make comparisons. The Housing Office can provide you with information on dwellings available. Rentals may be found in the "Classified" section of the Daily Astorian <http://www.dailyastorian.info/>. Additional sites to check are [www.northwindrentals.com](http://www.northwindrentals.com) and <http://www.places4rent.com/index.asp?LOCID=4066>. Conduct an inspection of your rental unit immediately upon deciding to rent it. Use the forms the Housing Office provides, unless the landlord has his own. List all defects regardless of how minor. This is for your protection. Upon moving out, you should not be charged for discrepancies that were present prior to your renting. Do not accept verbal promises to make repairs. **IF IT'S NOT IN WRITING, IT'S NOT BINDING.** If the unit is currently rented, determine which furnishings go with the unit and which belong to the present tenant. If the landlord shows you a "model" unit, determine precisely which items will be supplied in the unit you rent. Discuss rental details thoroughly with the landlord. Make certain which utilities and services are supplied in the rental charge, and which ones you pay. Advertisements saying, "all utilities included, except electricity" usually means the landlord supplies cold water and pays the sewer charge and garbage collection. Everything operated by electricity, you as a tenant, will be obligated to pay.

Determine the exact rental charge, beginning date and subsequent due date. If the rental agreement is in writing, you are entitled to a copy of the agreement. If one is not offered when arrangements are concluded, you should insist that a copy be furnished.

### ***Military Clause:***

If you enter into a rental agreement other than a month-to-month tenancy, it is considered wise to insist on a military clause. A military clause is as flexible as you, the tenant, and the landlord agree upon. It is designed to allow you to break a lease or rental agreement upon presentation of proper military orders. In this area, the military clause usually pertains only to PCS, and very seldom does it apply to moving into government quarters. If you have applied for government quarters and the waiting period is shorter than your contract with the landlord, advise the Housing Customer Service Section when your contract expires. When your name comes to the top of the list, it allows you to give proper notice of your intent to move to the landlord without breaking your contract. **MOST IMPORTANT**, you are responsible for checking the waiting list and keeping yourself advised on your standing. Breaking your contract to move on post can be very expensive to you, so take advantage of this program.

### ***Security Deposits:***

If any moneys are paid to the landlord by the tenant as a deposit or as security for performance of the tenant's obligations in a lease or rental agreement. The lease or rental agreement shall be in writing and shall include the terms and conditions under which the deposit, or portion thereof, may be withheld by the landlord upon termination of the lease or rental agreement. If all or part of the deposit is withheld to indemnify the landlord for damages to the premises for which the tenant is responsible, the rental agreement shall be in writing and shall so specify. No deposit may be collected by a landlord unless the rental agreement is in writing and a written checklist or damages to the premises and furnishings, including, but not limited to, walls, floors, countertops, carpets, drapes, furniture, and appliances, is provided by the landlord to the tenant at the commencement of the tenancy. The checklist or statement shall be signed and dated by the landlord, and the tenant shall be provided with a copy of the signed checklist or statement.

On average, it takes 3 to 14 days to obtain rental housing and 40 days to purchase a home. Bring any references (from prior landlords), credit history letters (from utility companies), current LES, and other credit documentation. Most landlords require credit checks. Credit checks range from \$35 to \$80 and are at your expense.

Apartments are plentiful. Houses and duplexes are limited. Town homes and mobile homes are extremely rare.

Many landlords will accept small pets with a \$200 - \$700 fee. It is very difficult to find landlords who will rent to larger animals.

### ***Clatsop County Rental Averages:***

Apartments/House	Rent Range	Deposit	Utilities
1 Bedroom	\$500 - \$650	1 Month	\$100
2 Bedroom	\$650 - \$800	1 Month	\$200
3 Bedroom	\$800 - \$1050	1 Month	\$300
4 Bedroom	\$1100 – \$1300	1 Month	\$400

### ***Utilities:***

When buying or renting a house or duplex, call the utility company before signing a purchase agreement, or signing the lease or rental agreement. You want to find out what the previous occupant paid to discover if you are renting an energy efficient dwelling and to find out how to budget for your utility bill. Due to moderate summertime temperatures, no air conditioning is necessary in the Clatsop County area.

The following list includes local services in the Clatsop County area.

***Cable TV & Internet:***

<b>Name:</b> Charter Communications
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.chartercom.com">www.chartercom.com</a>
<b>Phone:</b> 866-731-5420
<b>Comments:</b> Cable TV & Digital Internet

<b>Name:</b> Grizzly Cable
<b>Phone:</b> 1-888-565-6067
<b>Comments:</b> Cable TV

<b>Name:</b> QWest
<b>Phone:</b> 1-877-660-6342
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.qwest.com/">http://www.qwest.com/</a>
<b>Comments:</b> Digital Internet

***Electrical:***

The following electrical company is used throughout Clatsop County. Use the web link (Customer Service – Paying Your Bill) to find payment drop-box locations.

<b>Name:</b> Pacific Power and Light Co.
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.pacificpower.net/">http://www.pacificpower.net/</a>
<b>Phone:</b> 1-888-221-7070
<b>Comments:</b> Rate-Cost: Currently each 100-kwh block costs \$3.05 per month  Hook-Up Fee: None  No Deposit is required unless you have an outstanding bill or bad credit with PP&L.

***Natural Gas:***

<b>Name:</b> North West Natural Gas
<b>Address:</b> 176 W Marine Dr.
<b>City:</b> Astoria, OR 97103
<b>Phone:</b> 1-800-422-4012
<b>Comments:</b> Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00-5:00 hrs

Hook-Up Fee: None
Deposit: There is no deposit requirement as long as you do not have a history of service termination for an Oregon utility for non-payment. No prior history with NWNG? Provide documentation of good payment history (1-year) of another utility.

***Phone Service:***

<b>Name:</b> QWest
<b>Phone:</b> 1-877-660-6342
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.qwest.com/">http://www.qwest.com/</a>
<b>Comments:</b> Phone & Digital Internet

<b>Name:</b> Sprint
<b>Phone:</b> 1-800-877-7746
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.sprint.com/">http://www.sprint.com/</a>
<b>Comments:</b> Phone

<b>Name:</b> Verizon Wireless
<b>Phone:</b> 1-800-256-4646
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www22.verizon.com/">http://www22.verizon.com/</a>
<b>Comments:</b> This appears to be the only reliable wireless service in this area.

***Sewer:***

<b>Name:</b> Astoria City Hall
<b>Address:</b>
<b>City:</b> Astoria, OR 97103
<b>Phone:</b> (503) 338-5172
<b>Comments:</b> Rates: Water and Sewer are combined with a minimum of \$45.66 for a two (2) month period. After 4000 gallons of water usage an additional sewer charge of \$2.80 is added for each 1000 gallons of water usage.  Fees: There is a non-refundable \$20.00 Account (water and sewer combined) activation fee required.



<b>Name:</b> Warrenton City Hall
<b>Address:</b> 225 S Main Ave.
<b>City:</b> Warrenton, OR 97146
<b>Phone:</b> (503) 861-2233
<b>Comments:</b> Rate If you are connected the charge is \$37.56 per month.

<b>Name:</b> Seaside City Hall
<b>Address:</b> 989 Broadway
<b>City:</b> Seaside, OR 97138
<b>Phone:</b> (503) 738-5511-
<b>Comments:</b> Ask for the Water Department.  Rates: For water and Sewer are combined with a minimum of \$70.00 for a two (2) month period.  Fees No hook-up fee or deposit required.

***Trash Pick-up:***

<b>Name:</b> Warrenton City Hall
<b>Address:</b> 225 S. Main Ave.
<b>City:</b> Warrenton, OR 97146
<b>Phone:</b> (503) 861-2233
<b>Comments:</b> Rate: Cost varies depending on number of scheduled pick-ups per month.

<b>Name:</b> Sunset Sanitary Service
<b>Address:</b> 1221 S. Jackson
<b>City:</b> Seaside, OR 97138
<b>Phone:</b> (503) 738-5717
<b>Comments:</b> Used if living in Astoria, Gerhart, Seaside, Lewis & Clark, Knappa, and Cannon Beach areas.  Rates: Varies with city.

<b>Name:</b> Clatsop Transfer Station
<b>Address:</b> 1790 Williamsport Rd
<b>City:</b> Astoria, OR 97103
<b>Phone:</b> (503) 325-4623
<b>Comments:</b> Location where you can take recyclables at no cost (Local recyclable services will not pick up waste oil or large quantities such as a household worth of cardboard boxes.). There are fees for trash and tires.

***Water Hook-up:***

<b>Name:</b> Astoria City Hall
<b>Address:</b>
<b>City:</b> Astoria, OR 97103
<b>Phone:</b> (503) 338-5172
<b>Comments:</b> Rate: Water and Sewer are combined with a minimum of \$45.66 for a two (2) month period. Water is not included in this price. Water is metered at \$2.00 per 1000 gallons.  Fees: There is a non-refundable \$20.00 Account (water and sewer combined) activation fee required.

<b>Name:</b> Warrenton City Hall
<b>Address:</b> 225 S Main Ave.
<b>City:</b> Warrenton, OR 97146
<b>Phone:</b> (503) 861-2233
<b>Comments:</b> Rate: In city rates: \$15.00 per month for the first 2000 gallons. Each 1000 gallons of consumption after that is \$2.15. Outside city rates: \$21.00 per month for the first 2000 gallons. Each 1000 gallons of consumption after that is \$2.99.  Hook-up Fee: None

<b>Name:</b> Seaside City Hall
<b>Address:</b> 989 Broadway
<b>City:</b> Seaside, OR 97138
<b>Phone:</b> (503) 738-5511-
<b>Comments:</b> Ask for the Water Department. Rates: Water and Sewer are combined with a minimum of \$70.00 for a two (2) month period.
<b>Fees:</b> No hook-up fee or deposit required.

## **Education:**

### ***Education Overview:***

There are four elementary schools, two middle schools, two high schools, and one parochial school (The Star of the Sea, is located in Astoria) in the Astoria/Warrenton area.

The Seaside/Gearhart/Cannon Beach area has three elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school.

Clatsop Community College in Astoria offers a wide range of adult courses. There are outlying campuses in Seaside, Cannon Beach, Jewell, Knappa, and Warrenton. The college offers two-year Associate Degrees and two-year programs for those who later transfer to a four-year school.

### ***Required Enrollment Records/Documentation:***

The following records/documents are needed to enroll children in school.

- a. Address of last school for requesting transcripts.
- b. Shot Records
- c. Birth Certificate for Kindergarten and First Grade
- d. Individual Education Plan (IEP) for Special Education students

### ***Astoria School District:***

<b>Address:</b> 3169 Marine Drive
<b>City:</b> Astoria, OR 97103
<b>Phone:</b> (503) 325-6441
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.astoriaschools.org/">http://www.astoriaschools.org/</a>

***Seaside School District:***

<b>Address:</b> 1801 South Franklin
<b>City:</b> Seaside, OR 97138
<b>Phone:</b> (503) 738-5591
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.greatschools.net/cgi-bin/or/district_profile/190/">http://www.greatschools.net/cgi-bin/or/district_profile/190/</a>

***Warrenton School District:***

<b>Address:</b> 820 S.W. Cedar
<b>City:</b> Warrenton, OR 97146
<b>Phone:</b> (503) 861-2281
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://members.tripod.com/~whswarriors/profile.htm">http://members.tripod.com/~whswarriors/profile.htm</a>

***Dress Codes:***

The Clatsop County School District has no set dress code, other than the obvious, e.g. no bare feet, no midriff shirts or clothing, no hats worn in the building. Each school has a guideline set up as a school dress code based on the staff, parents and students of the school. The school district does not endorse school uniforms at this time and if further information is needed, the school district can be accessed by going to their website listed above.

***Gang - Related Behavior or Incidents:***

The school districts primary concern is creating a positive and safe environment for students to learn. The school district has a **ZERO TOLERANCE** policy on any type of gang activity or involvement.

***Gang - Violence, Drugs:***

As in any school in the United States, every effort is made to ensure that schools are free of anything that deters the education process such as violence, drugs, weapons, harassment, etc. Whereas, the school has NO TOLERANCE policies for each of these areas, when a situation arises, it is dealt with swiftness, fairness, and the seriousness that it deserves. The school district and military agencies work together to ensure that students and/or families have access to agencies that can assist them in working through these issues. Schools sites the involvement of parents in PTO's are vital to ensuring that you know what is going on in the schools.

### ***Sports Activities:***

Area High Schools have a variety of sports opportunities such as football, boys and girls basketball, girls softball, boys and girls soccer, boys and girls golf, wrestling, and track. Each of these sports is open to all students with passing grades and a willingness to work. Teams are chosen at various times of the year. If you are interested in finding out more about the sports programs contact the city school district office.

### ***Home School Information:***

Families that home school their children in Clatsop County must be registered through the Northwest Regional Educational School District (ESD). The ESD office for this area is located in the same building as the Astoria School District.

This link goes to a site that lists Oregon State requirements for home schooling as well as links for many home schooling resource sites.

<http://www.gomilpitas.com/homeschooling/regional/Oregon.htm>

### ***Private Schools:***

<b>Name:</b> St. Mary Star of the Sea
<b>Address:</b> 1411 Grand Avenue
<b>City:</b> Astoria, OR 97103
<b>Phone:</b> 503-325-3771
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.starofthesea.pvt.k12.or.us/">http://www.starofthesea.pvt.k12.or.us/</a>
<b>Religion Affiliation:</b> Catholic
<b>Tuition:</b> Tuition costs can be obtained by calling or viewing the Registration section of their website.
<b>Comments:</b> Preschool through 8 <sup>th</sup> grade.

<b>Name:</b> North Coast Christian School
<b>Address:</b> 796 Pacific Dr
<b>City:</b> Hammond, OR 97103
<b>Phone:</b> 503-325-3771
<b>Religion Affiliation:</b> Nondenominational
<b>Tuition:</b> Tuition costs can be obtained by calling the school.
<b>Comments:</b> K through 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.

<b>Name:</b> Pleasant View School
<b>Address:</b> 91272 Highway 101
<b>City:</b> Warrenton, OR 97146
<b>Phone:</b> 503-861-1633
<b>Religion Affiliation:</b> Seventh Day Adventist
<b>Tuition:</b> Tuition costs can be obtained by calling the school.
<b>Comments:</b> Preschool through 8 <sup>th</sup> grade.

### ***Special Education:***

Contact the desired city's school district for information on availability of special education programs. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the National Information Center for Children and Youth with Handicaps.

<b>Name:</b> National Information Center for Children and Youth with Handicaps
<b>Address:</b> P.O. Box 1492
<b>City:</b> Washington, DC 20010
<b>Phone:</b> 1-800-999-5599
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://lincoln.midcoast.com/~wps/special/welcome.htm">http://lincoln.midcoast.com/~wps/special/welcome.htm</a>
<b>Comments:</b> The web link above provides a listing (W/links) of many mental and physical special education resource sites.

### ***Clatsop Community College:***

Clatsop Community College offers 65 vocational/technical training programs, as well as specialty business, financial, and international trade opportunities developed for local businesses.

<b>Name:</b> Clatsop Community College
<b>Address:</b> 1653 Jerome Avenue
<b>City:</b> Astoria, OR 97103
<b>Phone:</b> (503) 338-2411
<b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.clatsopcc.edu">http://www.clatsopcc.edu</a>

<b>Name:</b> Clatsop Community College
<b>Address:</b> 1761 N. Holladay Dr.
<b>City:</b> Seaside, OR 97138
<b>Phone:</b> (503) 338-2411

## Medical and Dental:

### *Medical and Dental Overview:*

The medical facility at the Group services all active duty personnel within the Group's subsequent units. (It also provides a limited amount of care to dependents, reservists, and retirees. The medical facility is a limited service medical and dental clinic.) If the clinic cannot handle the nature of the medical or dental ailment, the patient is referred to Madigan Army Medical Center in Tacoma, Washington, Columbia Memorial Hospital in Astoria, Providence Medical Group in Seaside, or to another local doctor/dentist. In some cases patients may get referred to a **TRICARE** network doctor in Portland.

Family members are encouraged to enroll in **TRICARE** Prime for medical services and United Concordia for dental services. There are 15 family care practitioners and 3 pediatricians contracted under **TRICARE** Prime in the Astoria / Seaside area. There are also 9 dentists contracted under United Concordia for the Astoria/Seaside area. It is highly recommended that all personnel and their families make an appointment with the **TRICARE** representative at (503)-861-6242 upon arrival for a complete health benefits brief. For information in advance of your health benefits brief, go to <http://www.tricare.osd.mil> or <http://www.tricare.com> for medical benefits information and <http://www.ucci.com> for dental benefits information.

### Sick Call Hours

For Active Duty Only

*Mon-Fri* 7:30 to 8:30

To schedule an appointment or for any questions, contact the clinic at (503) 861-6240.

### *Community Hospitals:*

<b>Name:</b> Columbia Memorial Hospital
<b>Address:</b> 2111 Exchange St
<b>City:</b> Astoria
<b>Phone:</b> (503)-325-4321 1-800-962-2407
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.columbiamemorial.org">www.columbiamemorial.org</a>

<b>Name:</b> Columbia Memorial Hospital Women's Center
<b>Address:</b> 550 22 <sup>nd</sup> St
<b>City:</b> Astoria
<b>Phone:</b> (503)-338-7595 1-800-962-2407

<b>Name:</b> Providence Seaside Hospital
<b>Address:</b> 752 South Wahanna Rode
<b>City:</b> Seaside, OR
<b>Phone:</b> (503)-717-7000
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.providence.org">www.providence.org</a>

### ***What is Primary Care?***

Primary care is a model of healthcare that is basic to managed care. The concept involves working with a designated Primary Care Manager who helps to manage your care and treatment.

### ***How Do I Get a Primary Care Manager?***

When you enroll in TRICARE and select PRIME as your healthcare option, you are given the opportunity to select a location to receive your primary care. Primary care manager assignments vary by clinic. Primary Care Manager Change 1-800-982-0028 #2

### ***How Do I See a Specialist?***

Referral to a specialist is done through your primary care manager. If you feel you need to see a specialist, please make an appointment with your primary care manager to discuss your concerns and consider your options. For those not enrolled in TRICARE PRIME, specialty care is accommodated on a space available basis.

### ***Dental:***

The Group Astoria Dental clinic is currently staffed to only see active duty members. Dependents' dental care can be taken care of by one of the nine dentists contracted under United Concordia for the Astoria/Seaside area. Additional dental information can be found at <http://www.ucci.com> or by calling 1-800-866-8499.

### ***Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Counseling Service:***

The Coast Guard recognizes that the well being of our personnel and their family members is very important. We further recognize that unsolved personal and work place problems often have incapacitating effects leading to lost productivity and costly



intervention. Because of this, the Coast Guard has adopted the EAP to help our people pro-actively address their concerns and manage problems throughout their careers. The EAP counseling service provides a confidential means to improve life skills or obtain help before a concern becomes a crisis to uniformed members, civilian and NAF employees and their family members. This allows the Coast Guard to maintain a more productive work force. 1-800-222-0364

## **Employment:**

### ***Employment Overview:***

The Clatsop County area is growing daily and there are jobs available in various fields. It is an important regional center for shipping, forest products, retail, and tourism. There are two community colleges and industrial-technical institutes in the area.

The current unemployment rate in the Clatsop County area is 5.9%. Many spouses and transitioning military members have been hired into new positions. The bottom line is: THERE ARE JOBS OUT THERE, BUT YOU HAVE TO LOOK FOR THEM.

### ***Oregon Employment Department:***

<b>Name:</b> Astoria Employment Office
<b>Address:</b> 450 Marine Drive, Suite 110
<b>City:</b> Astoria, OR 97103
<b>Phone:</b> (503) 325-4821
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://findit.emp.state.or.us/offices/astoria.cfm">http://findit.emp.state.or.us/offices/astoria.cfm</a>
<b>Note:</b> There is a VA Rep at this location who will assist military spouses find jobs.

### ***Chambers of Commerce:***

<b>Name:</b> Astoria Warrenton Chamber of Commerce
<b>Address:</b> PO Box 176 111 W Marine Drive
<b>City:</b> Astoria, OR 97103
<b>Phone:</b> (Voice) 503-325-6311 (Information) 800-875-6807
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.ohwy.com/or/a/astoricc.htm">http://www.ohwy.com/or/a/astoricc.htm</a>

<b>Name:</b> Seaside Chamber of Commerce
<b>Address:</b> PO Box 7
<b>City:</b> Seaside, OR 97138
<b>Phone:</b> 1(800) 444-6740 (503) 738-6391
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.seasidechamber.com/">http://www.seasidechamber.com/</a>

<b>Name:</b> Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce
<b>Address:</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> & Spruce PO Box 64
<b>City:</b> Cannon Beach, OR 97110
<b>Phone:</b> (503) 436-2623
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.cannonbeach.org/index.html">http://www.cannonbeach.org/index.html</a>

## Exchange System:

### *Coast Guard Main Astoria Exchange:*

The Coast Guard Main Exchange also includes a small Commissary as well as a gas station. It is located approximately ½ miles from the Coast Guard Housing Complex.

Services Available at the Main Exchange include:  
UPS shipping, postage stamps, phone cards, film developing.

Special orders are available for a wide range of items.  
Ask at the customer service desk.

We accept Visa, MC, American Express, and Discover.

Ask about the Military Star Card Program.  
Designed for the Military customer.  
Great rates apply now and receive instant credit.

Location:  
1240 West Marine Drive  
Astoria, OR 97103  
(503) 325-0108

Hours:  
Monday thru Friday: 9:00 am to 8:00 pm  
Saturday: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
Sunday: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

## **Relocation Assistance Program:**

### ***Relocation Assistance Program Overview:***

The Coast Guard Relocation Assistance Program was initiated in July 1992. The program helps members and their dependents during the relocation cycle and is available to all CG beneficiaries. The primary goal of the RAP is to assist Coast Guard employees and their families through the relocation cycle. The RAP is a triad of resources. Consisting of Transition Relocation Managers, Relocation Information Services, and Relocation Assistance Services. Relocation involves moving people -- not just moving things and changing housing. During your transfer you need to consider your requirements for support resources. Completing your transfer includes making connections with resources and services at your new location as well.

### ***Relocation Assistance:***

What exactly does that mean? Being a part of the military almost automatically means moving. Almost every set of PCS (Permanent Change of Station) orders means packing up and moving yourself, your family and your belongings to a new duty station. Why is this a big deal? Well, for starters, any major event (and moving is a major event) causes stress for the entire family. Not dealt with, stress can build to the breaking point and cause health and emotional problems. Children are affected in the same manner as adults. There are things you can do to head off such problems:

Planning is the key to a good move. Get all the information you can about your new duty station and surrounding area before making the move. Involve the whole family - even small children. Let them help with finding information. Sit down as a group and discuss it and plan ahead.

Preparing is the next most important step. Find out (if you are not sure) what steps to follow. Your Relocation Assistance Manager is a great resource to tap into. They can help you with information check lists, and one-on-one counseling to help you make the best preparations. Make a checklist and follow it for best results. Find out what all your entitlements are before making a move - it will help you in financial planning.

Travel pay and allowances: There are different types of allowances you may be eligible for. To find out if you qualify, check with your Personnel Office.

(a) **Dislocation Allowance** - active duty personnel with families are entitled to this allowance to offset some of the costs of closing one home and setting up another. These costs include rent deposits, utility hookups, etc. This allowance is equal to two and one half (2 1/2) months' BHA.

(b) **Mileage in Lieu of Transportation (MALT)**- when service members drive to a new assignment. The service member receives 15 cents per mile if traveling alone; 17 cents if

traveling with one family member; 19 cents with 2 family members and 20 cents with 3 or more family members.

(c) **Advance Pay** - amount up to 3 months pay and is normally repaid in equal installments over 12 months. In certain cases, repayment can be spread to 24 months.

Don't take or spend advance pay unless it is absolutely essential. You will pay it back by monthly deduction from your pay. So you will have less to live on each month until all of it is paid back. Don't take advance pay just to blow it on a car stereo or some other non-essential.

(d) **Per Diem - Along with DLA (dislocation allowance) and MALT**, food and lodging costs are reimbursed at a daily rate for personnel and family members. Service members receive \$99 per day plus \$74.25 per day for their spouse and each family member over 12 years of age and \$49.50 for family members under 12.

(e) **Temporary Lodging Expense (TLE)** - this allowance is for PCS transfers within the United States and provides up to \$110 a day for ten (10) days to offset temporary housing costs incurred locally before departing the old duty station or after reporting to a new station.

(f) **Additional benefits** - in addition to the above, permissive travel for house hunting can be authorized by your Commanding Officer. This free time off is not to be executed by TAD orders and cannot exceed 10 days, five of which can be workdays. Proceed time (an administrative absence not charged as leave, normally 4 days) can be granted to personnel ordered to or from ships, or mobile units having a sea/shore rotation code of 2 or 4, to or from an "all others tour", and to or from overseas accompanied tours.

Arrival at the new duty station means adjusting to the new environment, new schools, new community, etc. No matter how hard the military tries to smooth the way, it's the family that must cope with adjustments to a new place. An entire social life, for parents and children, has been left behind, along with a familiarity with the local area, its stores, its services and so on. Families who successfully move a lot learn to create and keep family traditions that don't change from place to place. Rules, bedtimes, a favorite TV program that everyone watches together, and a special supper on Sundays, these traditions provide continuity and security.

### ***D13 Relocation Assistance POC:***

Use the attached link to access the D13 Work-Life Program website. The D13 Relocation Assistance Manager is David Sweeney. He can be contacted at (206)-217-6615 or emailing him at [david.j.sweeney@uscg.mil](mailto:david.j.sweeney@uscg.mil).

### ***In Transit Emergencies:***

Contact Group Operation Center at (503) 861-6221 and any Coast Guard or DOD facility near your location.

### ***Financial Preparedness:***

While planning on relocating to Group Astoria, keep in mind that this area is experiencing a boom in tourism. Additionally, in the next couple of years this area will be experiencing the bicentennial of the Lewis & Clark Expedition. So hotel rooms should be booked well in advance.

### ***Pet Boarding/Kennels:***

This list of kennels is not intended to be an endorsement or recommendation by Coast Guard Group Astoria, but is provided as an information list to assist personnel who are in need of kennel services for their pets.

<b>Name:</b> Bay Breeze Boarding
<b>Address:</b> 1480 SE 9th
<b>City:</b> Warrenton, OR 97146
<b>Phone:</b> (503) 861-9817
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.baybreeze-boarding.com">www.baybreeze-boarding.com</a>
<b>Comments:</b> Mon-Sat 9:00 – 6:00 Call for fees.

<b>Name:</b> Jean's Boarding Kennels
<b>Address:</b> 79721 Hamlet Rd
<b>City:</b> Seaside, OR 97138
<b>Phone:</b> (503) 738-6996
<b>Comments:</b> Call for fees.

## **Driving in Oregon:**

### ***Oregon Seat Belt Laws:***

Safety belt use is mandatory in Oregon for all drivers and passengers in all available seating positions when the vehicle is in motion.

In Oregon, all children less than 4 years of age and weighing 40-pounds or less are required to be in an approved child safety system. Children weighing over forty pounds but less than sixty pounds AND children over four years of age but under six years of age must ride in a child safety system, which elevates them so the lap and shoulder belt fit them properly. Currently, such systems would include “booster” seats. It is strongly recommended that all children, twelve years of age and under, ride in the back seat.

Child safety systems must meet all federal standards. For help in obtaining, selecting or installing a child safety system, contact [ACTS Oregon Child Safety Seat Resource Center](#) at 1-800-772-1315.

### ***Drinking and Driving:***

Oregon has some of the toughest drinking and driving laws in the country. The "Implied Consent Law" simply means that your right to drive a motor vehicle in Oregon implies consent to submit to breath analysis if you are suspected of drinking and driving. Your first offense carries a minimum sentence of one day in jail, a maximum fine of \$1,600 and the loss of your license for 90 days. A second conviction carries a minimum sentence of up to one week in jail, a maximum fine of up to \$3,200 and the loss of your license for one year. In addition, you will have to attend a mandatory drug and alcohol course and a mandatory evaluation course. If you add the court costs together with the court-imposed penalties, and increased automobile insurance costs, you can see it doesn't pay to drink and drive.

The blood alcohol limit in Oregon State is .08. For an average-sized person, that's equal to drinking four drinks in one hour.

### ***Driver's Licenses:***

<b>Name:</b> Driver's Licenses (Astoria)
<b>Address:</b> 705 W Marine Drive
<b>City:</b> Astoria, OR
<b>Phone:</b> 325-3951
<b>Comments:</b> Hours: Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat 0830 to 1630 Thurs. 0930 to 1630

### ***Oregon State DMV website (study guides, required identification, fees):***

<http://www.oregondmv.com>

While stationed at Group Astoria, service members have two choices of driver's licenses: Oregon or home-of-record state or territory. Territory licenses acceptable in Oregon are those from Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa and the Virgin Islands.

Many states have "moratorium" laws: if you had a valid license when you entered the service, it continues to be valid as long as you are on active duty. Check with your state to be sure they have such laws. Clatsop County has only a few offices where drivers are tested and new licenses are issued. Check your phone book for the nearest office to you.

Oregon driver's licenses are renewable every **eight years** for **\$54.50** plus an additional **\$9.00 examination fee**. There are additional fees and examinations for motorcycle and commercial drivers licenses.

When your license is due to expire, write or call your issuing State Department of Motor Vehicles to notify them that you are in the military and are currently stationed out of state. They will explain the state requirements to keep your license valid. Don't assume the military clause is automatic.

### ***Driver's License Information Pertaining to Teens:***

#### **Class C Instruction Permit**

A Class C instruction permit allows a driver who is at least 15 years old to operate the same vehicles as a Class C license, with certain restrictions. You must have a licensed driver who is at least 21 years old seated beside you in the vehicle. The permit may or may not let you drive in other states. You should check with any other state in which you may be traveling. Class C instruction permits are valid for 24 months.

#### **Class C Provisional License (Graduated Licensing)**

A Class C provisional driver license allows a person who is 16–17 years old to operate the same vehicles as a Class C license. DMV closely monitors drivers with a provisional license to ensure safe driving practices.

If you are under 18 years old, you need to know about requirements and limits on learning to drive, getting a license, and driving. These requirements and restrictions are often called “graduated licensing.” That means a young driver is eased into the responsibilities of driving, rather than being granted the full privilege at one time.

A person under 18 years old must have an instruction permit from Oregon, another state, or the District of Columbia for **AT LEAST SIX MONTHS** before applying for a provisional driver license.

The applicant for a provisional license at age 16 or 17 must:

- Certify, verified by his or her parent or guardian, that he or she has had at least 50 hours of driving experience while being supervised by a licensed driver who is at least 21 years old and who has had a valid license for at least three years, **and**
- Verify completion of a traffic safety course that meets standards developed by the Department of Transportation or
- Without a traffic safety course, an applicant and his or her parent or guardian must certify an additional 50 hours driving experience, for a total of 100 hours of supervised driving with a licensed driver specified above. Once DMV issues a provisional license, the under 18 driver still has restrictions to follow. The restrictions are:
- **For the first six months**, the young driver may not carry any passenger under 20

years old who is not a member of the driver's immediate family. DMV does not determine who is an immediate family member.

- **For the second six months**, the young driver may not carry more than three passengers who are under 20 years old who are not members of the driver's immediate family.
- **For the first year**, the young driver cannot drive between the hours of midnight and 5:00 a.m., except when: (a) driving between home and a place of employment; (b) driving between home and a school event for which no other transportation is available; (c) driving for employment purposes; OR (d) driving with a passenger who is at least 25 years old.

Passenger restrictions do not apply while driving with an instructor as part of a certified traffic safety education course or with a parent or stepparent, who has valid driving privileges.

If you are under 18 years old and have a driver license issued by another state, the certification of driving experience and completion of a traffic safety course are not required when applying for an Oregon driver license. However, these restrictions will apply once DMV issues you an Oregon license:

Be at least 16 years of age. If you are under 18, you must have your Certificate of Completion from an approved driver education course; and if you are under 18, your parent or guardian must sign a Parental Authorization form. Parents must provide proof of their identity and relationship to you.

The Parental Authorization form must be either notarized or be signed in the presence of a Licensing Service Representative. The customer must present this form prior to both the written knowledge examination and the drive test.

Provide positive proof of identification and age. Provide photo identification for issuance of a photo driver license or identification card.

### ***Identification (ID) Cards:***

DMV issues non-driver identification cards to Oregon residents who do not have a valid driver license or instruction permit and those needing some form of acceptable identification. You must show DMV the same identification documents to obtain an ID card as required to obtain a driver license. You cannot have a driver license or permit and an ID card. An ID card will expire on your birthday in eight years.



## **Survival Tips For First Termers**

### ***Survival Tips for First Termers Overview:***

Cost of living is higher in the Clatsop County area than most parts of the United States (exceptions are Washington D.C., California, Hawaii and New York City).

Most rentals do not include all utilities. Many have electric baseboard heat so \$100-\$150 a month electric bills in the winter are not uncommon.

Do not plan on moving right into Coast Guard owned housing. Depending on where your name is placed on the housing list, it may take as long as 4 to 8 months before a house is available.

### ***Important Tips about Renting Houses and Apartments:***

1. Most rentals are leases for six months a few are an annual lease (12 months). If you breach a lease you are liable for the rent remaining on the term of the lease. The rent must be paid until the landlord finds another tenant (must be advertising the apartment or house), if you vacate early.
2. After a lease expires the unit becomes a month-to-month tenancy unless a new lease is negotiated. To move you must provide a 20-day written notice to vacate. The 20-days means 20-days prior to the day the next rent is due, i.e. you want to move on the 5th of a normal month. You must give the landlord (in their possession) by the 10th of the month prior to vacating the premises. Otherwise you will owe the entire next month's rent and forfeit your deposit.
3. Most month-to-month tenancy agreements require a six-month stay to avoid forfeiture of your deposit.
4. Request a military clause in writing, keep a copy and sign and date it in addition to your lease or rental agreement. Most do not allow you to terminate the contract if you receive notice to move into government housing unless this clause is on the lease or rental agreement.

Other Financial issues and advice:

Gasoline prices are among the highest in the country, currently \$2.28 a gallon for regular unleaded gasoline at the Exchange.

Shopping for groceries at the Ft. Lewis commissary (Tacoma, WA.) will save approximately 32%.

Oregon does not have a state sales tax.

If you decide to purchase a car or other major expense item by credit there is no 3 day or 5 day right of return on that item. If you sign the contract you bought it. The exception is door-to-door sales or telephone purchases. These contracts do have a 3-day cancellation clause, but after those 3 days the item is yours and the contract is binding.

### ***Before You Move:***

Once the service member receives their orders - start the process as soon as possible. Start scheduling appointments such as household goods, passport (if necessary), finance, and immunization.

Discuss the move with the family in a quiet and relaxed manner. Discuss fears and anxieties as well as all the positives.

Learn about your new duty station by going to the Group Astoria Website at <http://www.uscg.mil/d13/units/gruastoria/>.

Requesting a SPONSOR is a good plan of action. What is a sponsor? A sponsor is a service member similar to you in rank and family situation who has volunteered to ease the transition process for new arrivals. As a rule, sponsors help you locate housing, day care and other services, assist you with the settling in process and make you feel more comfortable in your new surroundings. How do you request a sponsor? One will be assigned to you by your receiving command.

Find out your new mailing address, even if it is only your new unit.

Send out changes of address letters to credit card companies, loan companies, magazines, banks, and anyone who owes you money or a deposit refund, etc. Go through your address book, your bills and financial papers from the past few months. Make out a list of company address is, telephone numbers, and account numbers. It is a good idea for you to invest in a good size lockable brief case or box and hand carry all of your important papers, unused checks, savings book, and other information.

Talk to your YN's about how much travel pay, dislocation pay, and temporary housing allowance pay you will receive. It is a good idea to have a little money tucked away for those unexpected emergencies.

Before packers arrive, get rid of all those things you no longer want or need. You'll only have to unpack it at the other end. Remember you have a weight and shipping allowance. Watch the packers as they are packing. Keep all valuables with you.

Make sure to pick up your children's school, medical, and shot records. Carry all of these documents with you to your new duty station.

### ***Claims Tip:***

When you make a U.S. Coast Guard-sponsored move, make sure that you check your inventory sheets very carefully. Your inventory is the list that the movers make of all your household goods. Make sure that if you have jewelry, you either hand-carry the jewelry, or that the movers list the jewelry pieces individually on the inventory. The same is true for other high-dollar items, such as mink coats. If the movers are resistant to this - insist! What usually happens is that the service member who is moving places his or her jewelry in a jewelry box, which is in turn put in a dresser drawer, or a larger box. The dresser or the larger box is listed on the inventory, but not the contents. If the jewelry turns up missing, the Claims Office would not be able to pay a claim for it, because it was not listed individually on the inventory. If you feel uncomfortable about listing jewelry pieces individually on the inventory, hand-carry them.

If you are in government quarters, make sure you clear your quarters, or if in an apartment make arrangements to get your security deposit refunded.

### ***Important Documents to Carry During Move:***

Many families have important papers and documents that they cannot afford to lose. These papers are difficult to replace. Do not pack these items in your household goods shipment. Hand-carry the following list of items:

Passports; Immunization records; Official birth, marriage, divorce, adoption or death certificates; Wills; Power of Attorney; Naturalization papers and complete information on citizenship proceedings; Tax records and other documents necessary to file taxes; House and property deeds and associated paperwork; Military records; Bank Books; Savings Bonds and other securities; Social Security Cards; Car titles and Shipping papers; Sales receipt for household furniture and other high value items and Household shipping inventories. There may be other important papers that you will need to carry.

### ***Up To Twelve Weeks Before You Move:***

- Decide how to save for un-reimbursed moving expenses.
- Renters notify landlord as required by lease.
- Begin keeping track of tax deductible moving expenses.
- Make an inventory of possessions and their value. Photograph or videotape as necessary.
- Organize personal records, such as birth certificates, insurance papers, warranties, etc.
- Make a list of who to notify about your move and provide a forwarding address as required.
- Let clubs and organizations that you serve know that you are leaving.
- Take care of necessary medical, dental, or optical appointments.
- Go through closets and drawers to sort clothes and other items to give away or sell.
- Make sure stickers from previous moves have been removed from furniture.

### ***Up To Eight Weeks Before You Move:***

- Start using canned foods, spray paint and other consumables.
- Employed spouse should give required notice of termination and obtain letter of referral. Spouses planning to seek employment should compile and update their resume.
- If going by car, develop a travel plan. Make reservations.
- Take care of car maintenance and repairs. - Contact insurance company concerning car(s), home, and household goods. Find out about coverage of your possessions in transit and storage and about high value items.
- Have pets checked by veterinarian and vaccinations/inoculations updated. Obtain a copy of these records.
- Close out any local charge accounts.

### ***Up To Four Weeks Before You Move:***

- Obtain change of address cards from post office. If new address is not yet known, you can still address cards now to save time later.
- Haul castaways to local thrift shop (obtain receipt for donations) or have a garage sale.
- Ensure that all your family members are properly listed on DEERS.

### ***Up to Three Weeks Before You Move:***

- Inform utilities; phone company, and delivery services when to discontinue service.
- Arrange for childcare on packing and moving day(s).
- If having more than one shipment, know weight limits of each, decide contents and begin separating.

### ***Up To Two Weeks Before You Move:***

- Return all library books and other borrowed items.
- Retrieve all loaned items.
- Plan menus from what's in the freezer and the cabinets.
- Reconfirm moving dates and times with the Transportation Office.
- Renew and pick up any necessary prescriptions.

### ***Up To One Week Before You Move:***

- Remove pictures, mirrors, wall accessories such as drapery rods, small appliances, food and utensil racks.
- Drain oil and gas from lawn mower and other power tools. (Dispose of in accordance with state laws.)
- Disassemble outdoor play equipment and structures such as utility sheds. Ensure all items are free of insects.

- Disassemble electronic components such as stereos and VCR's. Place in original packing boxes if available.
- "Park" hard disk drive units, then disconnect computer system.
- Set aside cleaning material to be used after packing and loading.
- Buy travelers checks since it might be difficult cashing out-of-state checks during the move.

### ***The Final Stretch:***

- Physically separate items not to be packed, including suitcases. If more than one shipment will be made, separate into groups.
- Keep the household inventory list on hand to carry as part of personal luggage.
- Contact insurance company at least 24 hours before storing and releasing your goods to the movers.
- Clean and dry refrigerator and freezer. Allow one or two days to dry with the door open. **CAUTION:** Families with young children or pets should block doors open to prevent accidental closing.
- Remove light bulbs from lamps.

### **Day of The Move:**

- Get up early and be ready for the movers.
- Get pet(s) under control before the movers arrive, perhaps letting them stay with a neighbor.
- Make sure cash, jewelry, important documents, and other valuables are secure; many people lock valuables in their car trunk.
- Useful items to have on hand include a marker to make extra notes on boxes, coffee, cold drinks, and snacks for yourself and the movers.
- Verify that the mover's inventory is detailed, complete, and accurate. Don't accept "miscellaneous" labels or entries, especially for valuable items.
- Make sure the conditions of your belongings are accurately noted. If anything is marked "scratched, dented, or soiled", note location of such.
- Keep the Transportation Office phone number on hand. If any problems or question arise, call promptly. Don't argue with the movers or packers.

### ***After You Arrive:***

Arrival at a new location doesn't mean the process is complete.

If you haven't already made arrangements, check with the housing office.

Arrange to have your household goods delivered when you have established a residence. When receiving your household goods make sure you have your inventory list and check each carton carefully. Encourage everyone to help unpack and make decorating decisions. Get acquainted with your neighbors and community. Set aside family time.

Contact loved ones, relatives, and friends that you have arrived safely.

Whether you plan on living in government owned or leased housing, you should contact the Housing Office in the Public Works Office at Group Astoria. The office's staff can give you the most up-to-date housing information and offer suggestions on where to look.

If any of your household goods were damaged or lost during shipment, you have 70 days to let the Staff Judge Advocate claims section know, to ensure maximum claim reimbursement.

***Travel Planning:***

Don't take or spend advance pay unless it is absolutely essential. You will pay it back by monthly deduction from your pay, so you will have less to live on each month. Don't take advance pay just to blow it on a car stereo or other non-essential.

***Additional Local Resources Points of Contact:***

LOCAL RESOURCES	ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER
<b>Child Care Resources and Referrals</b>		
Caring Options	#10 6th Street Astoria Suite 205B	325-1053
Astoria Community Child Center	770 11th Street Astoria	338-6448
<b>Counselors:</b>		
Clatsop Behavioral Healthcare	#10 6th Street Astoria Suite 103	325-5722
Clatsop County Health and Human Services	Exchange Street, Astoria	325-8500
Alcohol and Drug Helpline(info and referral)	<a href="http://www.orpartnership.org">www.orpartnership.org</a>	1-800-923-4357
Alcohol and Drug Youthline	<a href="http://www.orpartnership.org">www.orpartnership.org</a>	1-800-553-8336
Oregon Adult and Family Services	450 Marine Drive Astoria	325-2021
WIC (Women, Infants and Children Nutrition)		1-800-322-2588
<b>Libraries:</b>		
Astoria Public Library	450 10th Street Astoria	325-7323
Seaside Public Library	60 N Roosevelt Dr.	738-6742
Warrenton Public Library	861 Pacific Dr. (Hammond)	861-3919
<b>Parks/Recreation Centers:</b>		
Astoria Parks and Community Services	1095 Duane Street Astoria	325-7275
Astoria Aquatics Center	1997 Marine Drive Astoria	325-7027
<b>LOCAL RESOURCES</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>PHONE NUMBER</b>
Clatsop County Parks	1100 Olney Avenue Astoria	325-9306

Clatsop County Fairgrounds	92937 Walluski Loop Astoria	<b>325-4600</b>
Seaside Community Center	1225 Avenue A Seaside	<b>738-7393</b>
Seaside Youth Center	1140 Broadway Seaside	<b>738-3192</b>
Skate Park	1140 Broadway Seaside	<b>738-3311</b>
Sunset Empire Pool	1140 E Broadway Seaside	<b>738-3311</b>
Warrenton Community Center	170 3 <sup>rd</sup> St. Warrenton	<b>861-3502</b>

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